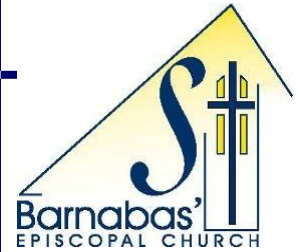


February 2024

The St. Barnabas' Reporter



Signs of Grace

Dear St. Barnabasians,

The Baptism, Reception, Confirmations, and Reaffirmation of Faith on February 4th are all an opportunity to consider once again the waters of our own Baptism, waters that connect us to our own creaturely source in God's Creation. I shared at the Baptism of our Lord of how, in the first chapter of Genesis, the first living creatures created were in the sea, followed by the birds, all on the fifth day. Land creatures didn't evolve until later—a time Genesis describes as the sixth figurative day, a time when humanity was also formed. Our Baptism in water represents our return to our source in God, and God's own call for us to rise up out of the water, to new life, inspired with the Holy Breath of God to be a living sacrifice to God. Our life was formed in water, and we ourselves are still mostly water. I think about that every time I need to rehydrate. But there are other gracious sources of our life, beyond simply water. For example, whatever good things we might have received in childhood were a gracious gift: they were not of our own doing.

When I consider my own childhood and some of the individuals who were sources of truth and inspiration in my own spiritual life, I'm reminded of my parents and grandparents. I also shared this at Lessons and Carols this past Christmastide, but I believe it was on a road trip that I took with my grandfather that he actually pulled a chestnut out of his pocket and gave it to me. With that chestnut he gave me a memory from his own youth and young adulthood in the thirties: he recalled how many people during the great depression would carry a chestnut in their pocket—so that anytime they wished, they could put their hand in their pocket and grab hold of the chestnut there—perhaps the chestnut was their something to hold onto because they didn't have anything else in their pockets at the time. And, even today, I believe a chestnut is a healthier thing to hold onto than a smartphone—I'm personally wondering if a chestnut might help me in my desire to pray more and read the news less, (and also, read the news less anxiously). But, for me now, a chestnut is also a reminder for me that no matter where I am, whether I'm seeking to hold onto faith, hold on-to hope, hold onto charity, or just hold onto God as best I can, all is for naught unless God is the one who is graciously holding on to me. Grace is about God's generosity. Even John the Baptist, that radical firebrand prophet, was speaking

(continued next page)

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito
Rector

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- *Expanding the Circle*
- *Stewardship Update*
- *In Celebration of Youth*
- *Scripture, Love, and Prayer*
- *Hypothermia Shelter Meals*
- *Breakfast with Santa*
- *Vestry: Class of 2026*
- *Cuba Committee*
- *WOSB Bazaar*
- *Cookies, Cards, and Caroling*

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**St. Barnabas'
Episcopal Church**

4801 Ravensworth Road
Annandale, VA 22003
703-941-2922

Parish Staff

The Rev. John Bolin Shellito
Rector

David Palmer
Music Minister

Catherine Dubas
Parish Administrator

James Harris, *Sexton*

Randolph Jones
2024 ASYP Tutor Coordinator

2024 Vestry Members

Sam Batten

Michael Dugger

Beth Harper

Leigh Kennedy

Jack Miller

Camille Mittelholtz

Mark Patterson

Jeff Schaefer

Katie Westerlund

PJ Kennedy
Treasurer

John Westerlund
Assistant Treasurer

Ann Sayles
Register

—
Catherine Dubas
Newsletter Editor

Worship Schedule

Sunday

8 a.m. Holy Eucharist

10:15 a.m. Holy Eucharist

Wednesday

10 a.m. Parish Library

Signs of Grace *(continued from p. 1)*

out with the reminder that repentance is still available to even the meanest brood of vipers. The name John actually means God is gracious. It can also be translated as “God’s Grace”, and I believe John the Baptist was a powerful embodiment of God’s grace, just as Baptism itself is a powerful embodiment of God’s grace.

Baptism is an opportunity for us as a community, to celebrate the significance that we have been received into God’s family, recognizing a relationship with God that is marked by water, oil, fire and breath. This full relationship with God is defined by water as the source of all life, the rains that nourish all food and our bodies. I already described water as our evolutionary cradle, as it were. But Water is also the source of freedom in the people’s journey through the Red Sea out of Egypt, the journey across the Jordan River into the Promised Land of freedom and responsibility, John’s call to a baptism of repentance at the Jordan River, and the journey with Jesus through death to new life. Water connects us to God as our ultimate source.

The oil of chrism blessed by the Bishop anoints us and marks us as Christ’s own, forever. The oil for anointing was used to set aside kings and to indicate the Messiah: indeed, Christ’s own title means “anointed”. Baptism is also about the fire of the Holy Spirit. In chapter 12 of Luke’s Gospel “Jesus said to his disciples: ‘I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over!’” In his radical speech and action, his “practical theology practicum” as it were, Jesus was involved in Baptizing the disciples with the Holy Spirit, the Holy Breath of God, that is transformative and purifying, like fire.

In Baptism we are also aware of the reality that even as we make our own choices in life, we have been inextricably formed and blessed by the faith and prayers of our parents, our friends, and the family of our faith community right here at St. Barnabas’. We do not save ourselves—God comes to us in our own human limitations, in the limitations of a human body, and it is through this Body of Christ that God shares the gift of the Holy Spirit with us. We share in the miraculous gift of new hope in spite of whatever fear or uncertainty we may feel.

And in the Eucharist after Baptism, Confirmation, Reception, and Reaffirmation, I am anticipating joining with the Bishop to sing of God’s ultimate promise to us, beyond the good we have received and shared in this life:

And I will raise them up

And I will raise them up

And I will raise them up on the last day.

Blessings,
John

A "Note" from David Palmer

by David Palmer, Music Minister

I've been reading a novel by Irish writer, Niall Williams, called *This is Happiness*. It's a good story with some good ideas embedded in it. At one point, one of the characters, after dealing with a difficult person, utters, "Human beings are creations more profound than human beings can fathom ... That's one of the proofs of God." The story moves on, but the narrator later inserts, "Neighbors, as Jesus knew, can be a not insignificant challenge to anyone's Christianity."

I find both statements to be compelling and to resonate with the complexities of the faith encapsulated in Bible verses like, "Love your neighbor as yourself," and "Those who do not love [their neighbor], whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen," and "Let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God." (1 John 4:7 & 8) What? You mean I can't just love God on my own, observing the liturgy and participating in the sacraments? Apparently not. This is why passing the peace was so disruptive when it was first introduced to Episcopal liturgy: we had to acknowledge that there was someone else there and that they deserve being seen and wished everything good that love offers us. We have a lot to learn about love: it's a lifelong journey, and its importance will be cemented when we come to our journey's end.

One of my favorite songwriters, Peter Gabriel, has written about love more than once. Some would say that his well-known song, *In Your Eyes* from 1986, is about love:

*Love, I get so lost, sometimes
Days pass and this emptiness fills my heart
When I want to run away
I drive off in my car
But whichever way I go
I come back to the place you are.
All my instincts, they return
And the grand façade, so soon will burn
Without a noise, without my pride
I reach out from the inside.*

Mr. Gabriel is still recording and performing, and one of the songs on his latest album returns to "burning the façade:"

*Whatever mess, you find yourself within
Regardless how you got there
When the edifice has slipped away and died
And left you standing there defenseless,
Love can heal love can heal.*

(continued next page)

Welcome Little One



Diana & Tim Greer
joyfully
announce
the recent arrival
of grandson
Jackson James,
brother to
Charlotte Rose
and son of
Erin & Tim Greer.

Collect at Confirmation

*Grant, Almighty God,
that we, who have been
redeemed from the old
life of sin by our
baptism into the death
and resurrection of
your Son Jesus Christ,
may be renewed in your
Holy Spirit, and live in
righteousness and true
holiness; through
Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns
with you and the
Holy Spirit, one God,
now and for ever.
Amen.*

BCP p. 254



February

Taylor Cannon
 Maria Bottlick
 Jordan Riddle
 Elizabeth Meenan
 Bob Gribbin
 Marcel Lisi
 Ann Sayles
 Karen Steidel
 Wayne Bottlick
 John Blevins
 Josephine Lilienthal
 Amos Shellito
 Matthew Rhodes
 Behn Ayala
 Paul Palmer

*O God, our times
 are in your hand:
 Look with favor,
 we pray,
 on your servants
 as they begin
 another year.
 Grant that they may
 grow in wisdom
 and grace,
 and strengthen their
 trust in your goodness
 all the days of their lives;
 through Jesus
 Christ our Lord. Amen.*

BCP p. 830

A Note (continued from p. 3)

It seems that Peter is still thinking about our edifices as impediments to love.

In *The Places that Scare You*, Pema Chodron describes one of these impediments, how loving-kindness can go astray and get stuck, as if we were weaving ourselves into a web of shared neurosis. Rather, loving-kindness “is genuine appreciation and care for the well-being of another person, a respect for an individual’s value. We can love someone for their own sake, not because they are worthy or unworthy, not because they are loving toward us or they aren’t.” (p. 76, paraphrased) That sounds a lot like Christlike love to me.

This Epiphany, our choirs are singing songs about love. The Cherub Choir is singing those verses from 1 John 4: 7 & 8. (Such songs are useful for memorizing Scripture.) The Adult Choir, in Mark Miller’s *Show Us How to Love*, sings a prayer: “Hearts open, minds awake; change us now for heaven’s sake. Leave us not alone in hatred’s wake; show us how to love... Eyes open, shocked awake, much to learn from our mistakes. Draw us closer in our heartache; show us how to love.” Amen, ‘nuff said.

Expanding the Circle...2023 UTO Ingathering

Dear Women of St. Barnabas; and Friends,

Thank you for your generous response to the 2023 UTO Ingathering!

Cindy McLaughlin presented our check for \$1,642.00 at the 2023 Episcopal Church Women (ECW) Fall meeting in November.

Expanding the circle of thankful people is the mission of UTO...our part in that mission, graciously accomplished.

Yours in Thanksgiving,
 Cricket Camp



Birthdays



We include a list of birthdays in each issue of the Reporter. Please make sure your information in Realm (our parish database) is up-to-date. Also, please contact the Parish Office if your name is missing and you would like it included.

Stewardship Update

by Behn Ayala



So far this year (as of January 11, 2024) we have had 59 families and 4 youth submit pledges of treasure to St. Barnabas' for 2024. On behalf of the Stewardship Committee, I would like to thank all of these folks for their thoughtful generosity. Huge thanks are also due to the members of the Stewardship Committee: Maria Bottlick, Cricket Camp, Grace Robbins, Maria Macfarlane, and Ellen Riddle. Special kudos also to those who provided Stewardship Ministry Moments: Beth Harper, Jocelyn Leatherwood, Jeff & Dawn Schaefer, and Grace Robbins.

Also, if you haven't submitted your 2024 pledge card yet, it's not too late! Do not be afraid!

God Bless each one of you for your generosity!

In Celebration of Youth: A Fundraiser for Second Story

5 - 6 p.m. Saturday, February 10

St. Barnabas' is the home for an after-school program, the Annandale Safe Youth Project, which provides a meal, tutoring, and fun three days a week for any child who is in 4th, 5th, or 6th grade. About once a month, the students have a music session at which they sing and play instruments. This past fall, the students spent one afternoon a week horseback riding.

It's a vital, beautiful ministry for which St. Barnabas' provides an excellent Tutor Coordinator, Randy Jones. His work is supplemented on occasion by volunteers from St. Barnabas'. The programmatic support comes from ASYP's umbrella organization, Second Story, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization based in Dunn Loring, VA.

In addition to their after-school programs (the other two programs are in Culmore and Springfield), Second Story offers a teen center, two family resource centers, temporary safe haven for teens in crisis, and long-term housing and support for older youth and for pregnant or parenting women who are experiencing homelessness or living in an unsafe situation.

In support of the young people who regularly spend afternoons in the Richardson Room, St. Barnabas' is organizing a simple fundraiser on Saturday, February 10, from 5:00-6:00 PM. We'll hear a brief presentation on Second Story, the ASYP students will sing songs and play instruments, and our own Cherub Choir will regale us with a few favorites. (The event is open to your musical offerings, in case you would like to get involved; just contact stbarnabasmusic@outlook.com.) Since Mardi Gras is only a few days later, David Palmer will be on hand to lead us in a rousing version of *When the Saints Go Marching In!*

ASYP - Annandale Safe Youth Project

First I would like to thank the congregation for their generosity in getting holiday gifts for the students in the Annandale Safe Youth Program. They were well received! Everyone had fun at our holiday party, and families were so happy to see their children arriving home with lovely gifts ready to be unwrapped. (Please see page 10 for a photo of the gifts.)

The horse riding program at Clover Field has come to an end, so we are back to meeting at the church on Thursdays. The two biggest things that stood out to me during our 10-week program were the confidence the students gained while they got better at horsemanship, and the team-building exercises. My personal favorite team-building exercise was when, in groups, they had their feet locked into two long boards and they had to coordinate their steps. It took some trial and error, but they really started moving after a bit of practice!

David Palmer continues to be a big help with reading and music, along with Grace Robbins. We also have a new volunteer—an elder brother of one of the students—now helping out. We can always use more mentors! If you think you might like to volunteer, please feel free to reach out to me. ~ Randy Jones

ACCA News - Annandale Christian Community for Action



CROP Hunger Walk - Many thanks to everyone who supported the 2023 Annandale CROP Hunger Walk. Although the walk opening in October was cancelled due to bad weather, most walkers walked at another time, and the Annandale Walk raised a total of \$17,132 for Church World Service. Of this, St. Barnabas raised \$3,019 in checks and \$1,425 in cash, for a total of \$4,444. ACCA will receive part of the funds raised to fight hunger and poverty locally.

Challenge Campaign - Thanks to everyone who donated to the ACCA Challenge Campaign. The effort is ACCA's major fund-raiser for support of ACCA programs.

Rebuilding Together - The National Rebuilding Day will be on Saturday April 27. ACCA plans to again sponsor projects to repair two houses, and St. Barnabas' plans to co-lead one of those projects. The project repairs and makes safer a house owned by a low-to -moderate homeowner or a nonprofit group home. We will learn more about our house assignment in March. Volunteers with skills ranging from novice to highly experienced in home repair will be needed.

ACCA Furniture - Thanks to those who volunteered to help with the ACCA Furniture Ministry on January 27. Our upcoming scheduled dates to serve for the Furniture Ministry are April 13 and July 13. Volunteers meet at 8 a.m. at the warehouse, 6935 Columbia Pike.

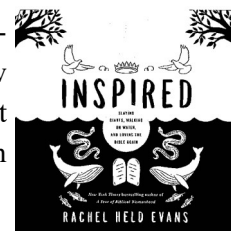
For more information about ACCA programs or to volunteer, please contact Camille or Ken Mittelholtz or the Parish Office.

Scripture, Love, and Prayer: Lenten/Eastertide Forums **Sunday Mornings, February 18th to April 14th (No Class on Easter)**

by Nathan Harpine, Seminarian

What is our relationship with Scripture? How does it speak in our lives? How do we deal with hard passages? Join us for this year's Lenten & Eastertide series as we discuss Rachel Held Evans' Book, *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Loving the Bible*.

Rachel Held Evans discusses the growth of her relationship with Scripture, allowing us to discuss our relationship with the Bible and the different ways of reading it. If you want to follow along, we will read about a chapter a week. All are welcome to the conversation whether or not they have read the book. For any questions or to get a copy of the book, reach out to me, Nathan Harpine, at nharpine@vts.edu.



Hypothermia Shelter Meals February 25—March 2

by Cindy McLaughlin

From Sunday, February 25 through Saturday, March 2, St. Barnabas' will be hosting dinners for the hypothermia prevention program in partnership with Saint Patrick's, Falls Church, and St. John's, Arlington.

The hypothermia prevention program, operated by New Hope Housing, runs from December 1 through April 1 to provide emergency shelter and a hot meal to the "overflow" guests when the regular shelters are full. During our week, meals will be served at St. Patrick's, and the program guests will spend the night at Annandale United Methodist Church (AUMC).

We will host the dinners each night from Sunday through Saturday with a guesstimate of between 45 and 50 people each night. We will also provide snack bags to give them each morning, and most likely will be providing socks, deodorant, and toothbrushes, as well.

We will be looking for volunteers both to provide meals and to help during the dinners to set up, serve, and clean up. Please keep an eye on your weekly email for a link to the Sign-up Genius (our online tool for organizing the meals, desserts, and what-not), which will be provided soon. You can also sign up through the Parish Office.



St. Barnabas' Mission:
Serving our community, the world, and each other
through the love of Jesus Christ

Breakfast With Santa

We had an amazing Breakfast with Santa event this year, with everyone enjoying pancakes and sausage; children decorating gingerbread houses, doing crafts, watching movies, and playing games; and - of course - a visit with Santa, whose elf handed out delightful goodie bags. The tables were full of people eating, busy children with their smiling faces, and craft supplies all over the tables and floor, with candy mixed in from decorating the gingerbread houses. That's how we knew it was a huge success! To close out the event, we all sang wonderful Christmas carols led by David Palmer.

A heartfelt thank-you to everyone who helped. We had adults and youth making and handing out pancakes and sausage; parents and parishioners helping with set-up and clean-up; crafts made in preparation for the event, as well as goodie bags; still others bought food, supplies, and drinks. We could not have done it without the help of everyone involved, and we are all very blessed to be a part of the St. Barnabas' family.

Theresa Merchant & Cindy McLaughlin



Left to right above: Pancakes and fellowship;
Crafts; Cooks; and Santa & Santa's Elf.



Left: Gifts for our ASYP friends
With deep gratitude for everyone who helped obtain the
gifts and wrap them. (See ASYP article on p. 6.)

Right: Our amazing
gingerbread houses!



Right: "Only in Olomouc can you combine good beer and good music."
From Nancy & Hugh Agnew in Olomouc, Czechia
The photo shows the window of a burger joint near the university in Olomouc.



Introducing Vestry Class of 2026

Katie Westerlund

I have been a member of St. Barnabas' for over sixteen years. Among the many ministries in our church, I have gravitated to Christian Education, including Adult Forum, Godly Play, and J2A in the past, and supporting youth programs, among others. I have represented St. Barnabas' as Alternate Delegate and then as Delegate to the Diocesan Convention, and have engaged locally in the South Fairfax Region meetings with other Episcopal churches looking for ways to minister beyond our church walls.

You may know the loves of my life – my family – husband, John, and our kids, Laura and Leah. They keep me on my toes, seeking adventure and laughing often. Outside of church you can find me helping out with the Girl Scouts and attending our kids' soccer practices and games. I enjoy a good walk, a good book, and find myself digging in the dirt from time to time. I work as a federal immigration adjudicator / analyst for the Department of Homeland Security, specializing in student immigration. I am honored to serve on the Vestry for the first time and look forward to collaborating in service to St. Barnabas'.



Jack Miller

I was born in upstate New York by recently-transplanted Virginia parents. I received my law degree from the University of Virginia, and, subsequently, a Masters of Law from George Washington University. I served in the military for 30 years, retiring with the rank of Colonel. In my practice of law, both public and private, I specialized in corporate law with an emphasis on government contracts. After my second retirement, I taught classes as a guest lecturer at the University of Virginia Law School. I have been a member of St. Barnabas' since 1970, have served on the Vestry previously, and have been active in the Choir throughout.



Camille Mittelholtz

I have been a member of St. Barnabas' since 1980, active in outreach activities and a member of the choir every year. I currently serve as Treasurer of the Women of St. Barnabas', co-chair of the Building & Grounds Committee, and scheduler for Coffee Hour hosts. I serve as the St. Barnabas' representative to ACCA and am active with ACCA's Furniture Ministry, Rebuilding Together, and the CROP Walk. I also volunteer with FACETS and help to provide meals for our hypothermia prevention program. I have served on the Vestry before, including as Senior Warden in 2018.

Ken and I were married at St. Barnabas' and our daughters Julie and Elsa participated in Sunday School and Youth Group here as they grew up. Camille is retired from a career in transportation and environmental policy at the U.S. Department of Transportation.



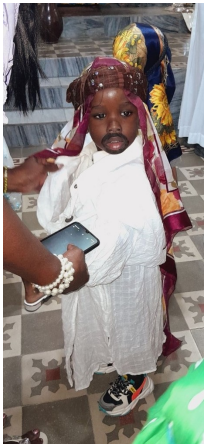
Cuba Committee

by Len LeRoy

Our partners in Cuba celebrated Christmas like we did, in worship and with Christmas or Epiphany Pageants. You can see a couple of the pictures that they sent below. The photo of the full cast is from San Pedro, a new church celebrating their first Christmas.

One difference there is that most churches have a Christmas tree at the front of the church. Christmas trees are a scarce commodity so almost no one has one at home. The church tree serves as a community tree. We took a tree for our friends at San Juan Bautista on our trip last summer. Few children in Cuba get Christmas presents because there are few in the stores and they are expensive. We were able to send some small gifts in December so that every child at San Juan Bautista and in the two preschools in Santiago could have something. We also provided funds to the Friends of the Episcopal Church in Cuba to provide a Christmas dinner to two congregations.

Food shortages are so bad that even people with money go to sleep hungry. We are sending groceries with such basics as beans and powdered milk to help support three priests and the vulnerable members of their congregations. Thank you for your support.



Virginia Theological Seminary conferred the Dean's Cross for Servant Leadership on Ellen Wofford Hawkins. The Dean's Cross was awarded to Hawkins by The Very Rev. Ian S. Markham, Ph.D., dean and president of VTS.

The citation read: "Ms. Ellen Hawkins for being a shining star of love and grace, for your service at the Butterfly House, Kanuga, Clemson University, and elsewhere, for your deep faithfulness to our Lord Jesus, for your willingness to reach out and bring sunshine into the lives of others – for all this and more, Virginia Theological Seminary is honored to confer on you the Dean's Cross for Servant Leadership."

TENS Episcopal News Service, December 19, 2023

WOSB Christmas Bazaar

by Camille Mittelholtz

Thanks to everyone who made crafts and food items, volunteered, shopped, and ate lunch at the WOSB Holiday Bazaar in November. The bazaar raised nearly \$3,200, including donations. Income this year from the bazaar, the Mad Hatter's Tea, and donations will allow WOSB to make donations totaling \$5,225 to St. Barnabas' programs and charities.

The next WOSB business meeting will be Tuesday, March 5 at 10 a.m. in the Richardson Room.



Cookies, Cards, and Caroling

by Molly Newling

On December 9, the Sunday School students, members of the Youth Committee, and others gathered in the Kitchen and Richardson Room to bake and decorate cookies to be delivered to our home-bound parishioners. Delicious smells and tasty treats ensued. Boxes and boxes of colorful cookies were packed, ready to be delivered the next day.

Because of pouring rain, delivery was delayed to the following Saturday, December 16. Under sunny skies, choir members and friends visited five homes to sing carols and deliver the treats. It was a warm and wonderful experience!



Thanks and More Thanks...

- For the Flower Guild/
- For the Altar Guild.
- For Behn Ayala and the Stewardship Committee .
- For the Vestry and Officers.
- For the outgoing Vestry members: Norma Ricketts, Ellen, Riddle, and Larry Stark.
- For Maria Bottlick, and her ministry as our lead Auditor and Financial Consultant starting this year.
- For Catherine and her ministry as Parish Administrator.
- For Nathan Harpine and his ministry as our Seminarian.
- For James Harris and his ministry as our Sexton.
- For Dr. David Palmer and his ministry as our Music Minister.
- For Delilah Stearns and her ministry and care as our Nursery Coordinator from 2016-2023 (having stepped down at the end of December).
- For the Adult Christian Education Committee.
- For Wayne Bottlick and Dave Wright, gold members of “The Folding, Etc. Society,” and for others who have joined them in helping get our newsletter ready for mailing: Molly Newling, Len LeRoy, and Robin Erskine.

In the Presence of God

We pray for God's strength and healing for ... Bernard Blair, Jean Anne Braddon, Charles Camp, Cricket Camp, Margot Donnelly, Charlie Flaherty, Betty Jo Fortune, Bob Frye, Rotha Frye, Preston George, Joan Gibbs, Lee Gibbs, James Harris, Roger Hefferan, James Hughes, Gertrude Jones, Sharon Jones, Alusine Kanu, Joy Lyles, Tom Lyles, Bob Macfarlane, Maria Macfarlane, Blair MacKenzie, Cindy McLaughlin, Jack Miller, Helen Mosher, Shirley Newman, Nancy Peyton, Beth Phillips, Anne Radway, Grace Rampersaud, Norma Ricketts, Ellen Riddle, Barbara Rigden, Ann Sayles, Trisha Serven, Frank Spink, Kathleen Stark, Larry Stark, Karen Steidel, Mareea Wilson, Dana Wiseman, Dave Wright, Mary Yeaman.

For the Church ... the Archbishop of Canterbury, Justin Welby; our Presiding Bishop, the Most Rev. Michael Bruce Curry; and our Diocesan Bishops, the Rt. Rev'd Mark E. Stevenson, Bishop, the Rt. Rev'd Gayle Elizabeth Harris, Assistant Bishop, the Rt. Rev'd James Joseph “Bud” Shand and their families. For our Rector, the Rev. John Bolin Shellito, and his family; for our Seminarian, Nathan Harpine; for Cindy McLaughlin (in discernment); for our Vestry, Wardens, and staff; and for the work and ministry of our sister parish of San Juan Bautista in Palma Soriano, Cuba.

Vestry Highlights - October & November

October

- Accepted the language of the Land Use Acknowledgement by Ms. Harper, for presentation and vote at the Parish Annual Meeting.
- Discussed the Parish Retreat (Shrine Mont) and how we might provide information from the retreat to the congregation.
- The Building & Grounds Committee will research options for potentially making the heavy doors leading into the church more accessible.
- The 2024 budget was presented and discussed. A special meeting to finalize the budget was scheduled for early December.

November

- The Vestry undertook preparatory work on the 2024 budget.
- Discussed ways in which we can become more visible to the community to help invite, welcome, and connect newer individuals.

December

- The majority of the December meeting was an Executive Session to discuss the budget so no minutes were taken.
- The 2024 budget was approved.

Reporter Deadline, Office Hours, and Schedule

The deadline for the March/April 2024 issue of *The St. Barnabas' Reporter* is **Thursday, February 15**. Please submit announcements and/or photos to the Parish Office at stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com. Hard copies of announcements and/or photos are welcome, as well.

Regular Office hours are Monday through Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; the Parish Administrator works remotely on Fridays.

OF NOTE:

- The Parish Office will be closed on Monday, February 19th for the Presidents' Day holiday.

As always, please call ahead to schedule any in-person meetings with John+, David, or Catherine.

Update Your Preferences

Please help us keep our database up to date by notifying the Parish Office if your contact information changes: 703-941-2922 or stbarnabaschurch@outlook.com.

► **February 2024 Schedule of Participants – St. Barnabas' Episcopal Church** ◄

If you cannot serve as assigned, please find a replacement and notify the Altar Guild Chair / Team Captain / Parish Office. Thank you.

Church Office: 703-941-2922 email: sbarnabaschurch@outlook.com

The 10:15 a.m. service will continue to be livestreamed each week. Please check your email or the parish website for the link.

DATE	ACOLYTE	READINGS	LECTOR	CHALICIST	USHER	10:15 AM COFFEE HOUR	OPENER / VESTRY-CLOSER
February 4 5 Epiphany 8:00 am 10:15 am <i>Bishop's Visitation</i>	TBD TBD	Isaiah 40:21-31 Psalm 147:1-12, 21c 1 Corinthians 9:16-23	M Dugger C Mittelholtz M Patterson	M Patterson M Patterson C McLaughlin	Williams Hamerschlag	Mittelholtz	Vestry: B Harper Opener: Williams Flower Guild: TBD Flower Delivery: TBD
February 11 Last Epiphany 8:00 am 10:15 am	TBD TBD	2 Kings 2:1-12 Psalm 50:1-6 2 Corinthians 4:3-6	T McKeever M Newling C McLaughlin	M Dugger C McLaughlin M Patterson	TBD Mittelholtz	Bottick	Vestry: TBD Opener: Patterson Flower Guild: TBD Flower Delivery: TBD
February 14 Ash Wednesday 10:00 am 7:00 pm	TBD TBD	Isaiah 58:1-12 Psalm 103:8-14 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10	C Mittelholtz M Patterson	C McLaughlin M Patterson	TBD Mittelholtz	N/A	Vestry: TBD
February 18 1 Lent 8:00 am 10:15 am	TBD TBD	Genesis 9:8-17 Psalm 25:1-9 1 Peter 3:18-22	M Patterson L Harris B Harper	N/A N/A	TBD Erskine	Newling/Harper	Vestry: TBD Opener: Newling <i>No flowers in Lent</i>
February 25 2 Lent 8:00 am 10:15 am	TBD TBD	Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16 Psalm 22:22-30 Romans 4:13-25	M Dugger M Newling M Patterson	M Patterson C McLaughlin B Harper	TBD Greer	Radway/Donnelly	Vestry: TBD Opener: Patterson
March 3 3 Lent 8:00 am 10:15 am	TBD TBD	Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25	T McKeever D Schaefer C Mittelholtz	C McLaughlin C McLaughlin M Patterson	W Williams Mittelholtz	Greer	Vestry: TBD Opener: Williams

Counter Schedule

DATE	TEAM	
Feb 4	2	TBD
Feb 11	3	TBD
Feb 18	4	TBD
Feb 25	5	TBD
Mar 3	1	TBD

Altar Guild Schedule

DATES	CAPTAIN	
Feb 3-9	Yeaman	Fortune, Leatherwood
Feb 10-16	TBD	TBD
Feb 17-23	TBD	TBD
Feb 24-Mar 1	TBD	TBD
Mar 2-8	TBD	TBD

KIDS COLORING PAGE





**ST. BARNABAS'
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

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Important Dates

**February 4 ▪ 10:15 a.m. Confirmations, Reception, and
Reaffirmation of Baptismal Vows**

The Rt. Rev'd James Joseph "Bud" Shand Visits St. Barnabas'

February 8 ▪ 6:30 p.m. "The Philadelphia Eleven" (movie screening) at VTS

February 10 ▪ 5:00 p.m. Fundraiser for ASYP "In Celebration of Youth"

**February 13 ▪ 6:00 p.m. Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper and
7:00 p.m. Farewell to Alleluias**

February 14 ▪ Ash Wednesday Services at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**February 18 ▪ 9:15 a.m. Seminarian's Lent & Easter Series begins,
guided by Rachel Held Evans' book, Inspired**